



JORDAN · BIVENS · SOBREIRO

MALEVOLENT



MALEVOLENT

WRITER

JUSTIN JORDAN

ART

JOHN BIVENS

COLORS

FELIPE SOBREIRO

LETTERS

CRANK!



IMAGE COMICS, INC.
Robert Kirkman – Chief Operations Officer
Erik Larsen – Chief Financial Officer
Todd McFarlane – President
Marc Silvestri – Chief Executive Officer
Jim Valentino – Vice President
Eric Stephenson – Publisher & Chief Creative Officer
IMAGECOMICS.COM

COVER ARTISTS:
CVR A: JOHN BIVENS
CVR B: PHIL HESTER
CVR C: ZANDER CANNON
CVR D: JON WAYSHAK
CVR E: BEN TEMPLESMITH

Production Artist:
Jon Schlaffman

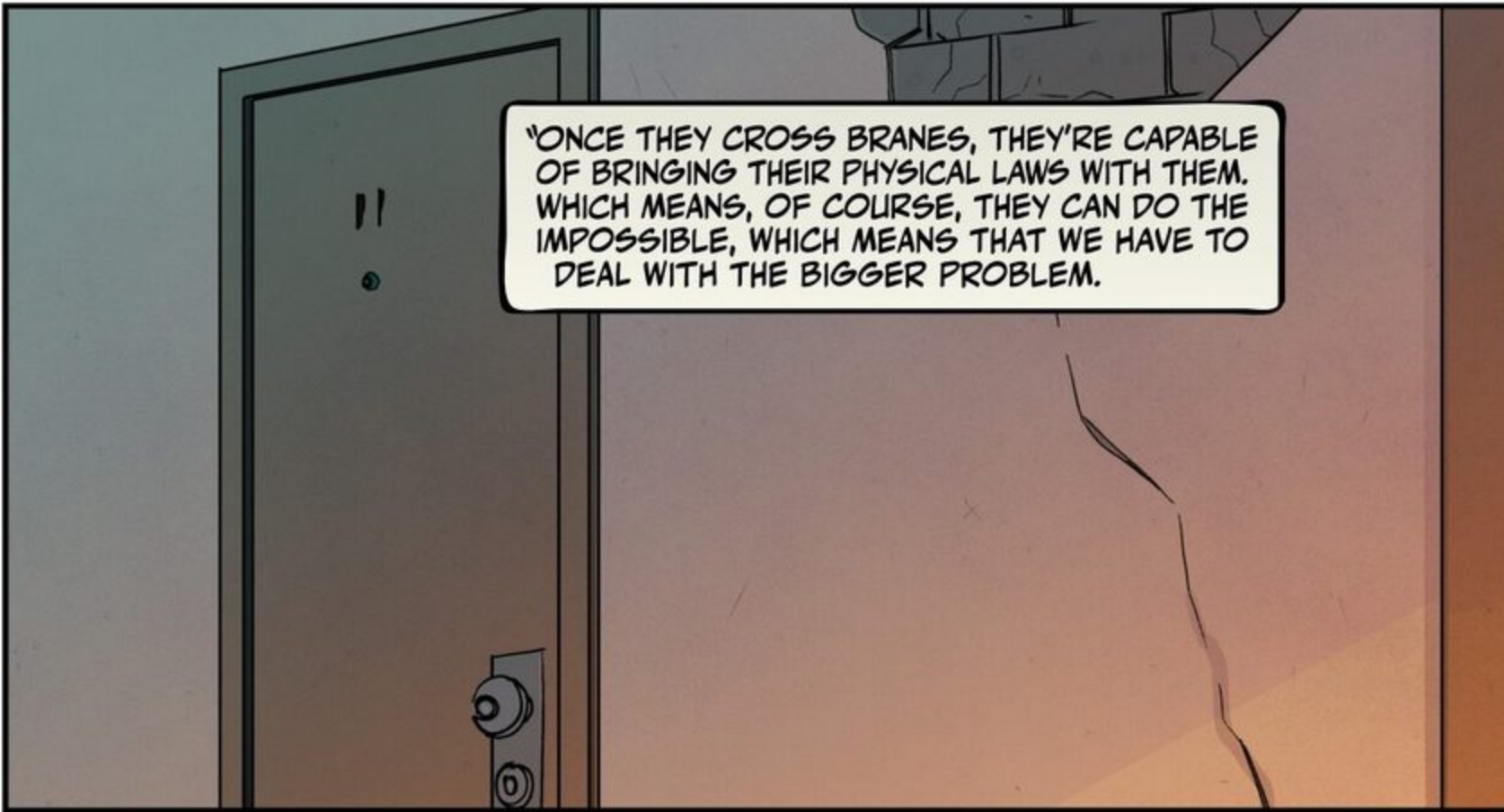
MALEVOLENT #1. January 2026. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: PO BOX 14457, Portland, OR 97293. Copyright © 2026 Justin Jordan and John Bivens. All rights reserved. “MALEVOLENT,” its logos, and the likenesses of all characters herein are trademarks of Justin Jordan and John Bivens, unless otherwise noted. Image Comics logo designed by Rob Liefeld. “Image” and the Image Comics logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for journalistic or review purposes), without the express written permission of Justin Jordan and John Bivens, or Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events, and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, or places, without satirical intent, is coincidental. Digital Edition. For international rights, contact: foreignlicensing@imagecomics.com.



"EVER SINCE THE *BREACH*,
THEY'VE BEEN A PROBLEM.



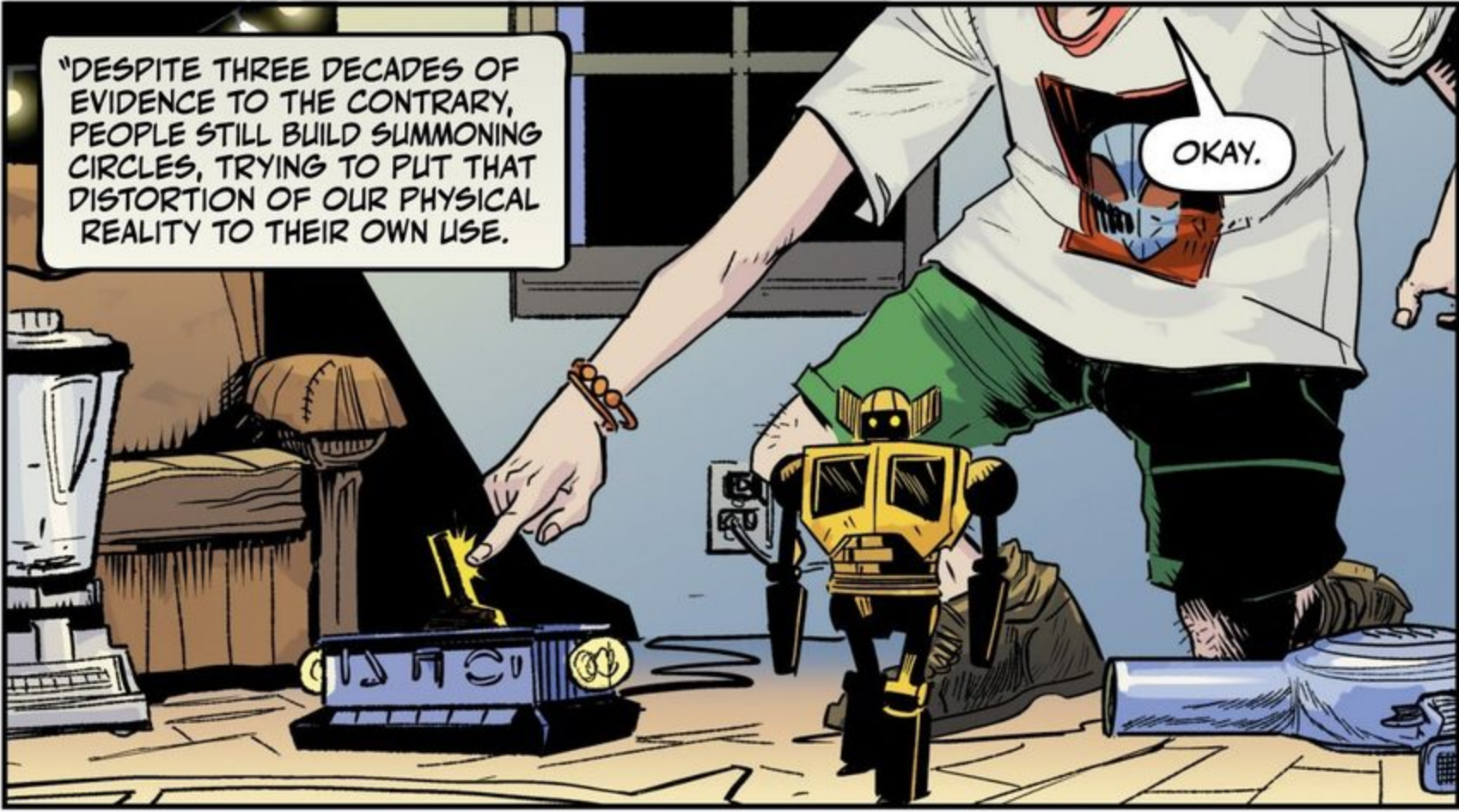
"THEIR RELEASE INTO
OUR WORLD WOULD
ALWAYS HAVE BEEN A
PROBLEM, OF COURSE.



"ONCE THEY CROSS BRANES, THEY'RE CAPABLE
OF BRINGING THEIR PHYSICAL LAWS WITH THEM.
WHICH MEANS, OF COURSE, THEY CAN DO THE
IMPOSSIBLE, WHICH MEANS THAT WE HAVE TO
DEAL WITH THE BIGGER PROBLEM.



"LIS.



"OKAY.

"DESPITE THREE DECADES OF
EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY,
PEOPLE STILL BUILD SUMMONING
CIRCLES, TRYING TO PUT THAT
DISTORTION OF OUR PHYSICAL
REALITY TO THEIR OWN USE.



"LET'S
DO THIS!"

"THE SUMMONING CIRCLE
QUITE OFTEN GOES TO
PLAN. EVERYTHING ELSE?"



"I...
OH.



"LESS SO."







DOES THAT
LOOK RIGHT TO
YOU, DAN?



I'M GONNA NEED YOU TO
BE A WHOLE LOT MORE
SPECIFIC.

THE
CONTAINMENT
WARD.

THE
PROJECTIONS
LOOK
DIFFERENT.

THEY
ARE.



GOT ORDERS FROM ON HIGH TO
USE A MODIFIED CONTAINMENT
CIRCLE. WHICH YOU'D BOTH
KNOW IF YOU BOTHERED
TO READ YOUR
EMAILS.



DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA
HOW MANY OF THOSE I GET?
THEY'RE USUALLY ABOUT
PAPERCLIP AUDITS.

FINE. WHAT ARE
WE GUINEA PIGS FOR
THIS TIME?



DUNNO.
BUT IF I HAD TO
GUESS, AND WITHOUT
A COMPUTER IT'S JUST
A GUESS, I'D SAY THE
GEOMETRY OF IT IS
DESIGNED TO BE
ONE WAY.

NOW
WHAT EXACTLY
WOULD THE POINT
OF THAT
BE?

MALS
CAN GET
IN, BUT THEY
CAN'T GET
OUT.

YOUR
GUESS IS
AS GOOD
AS MINE.

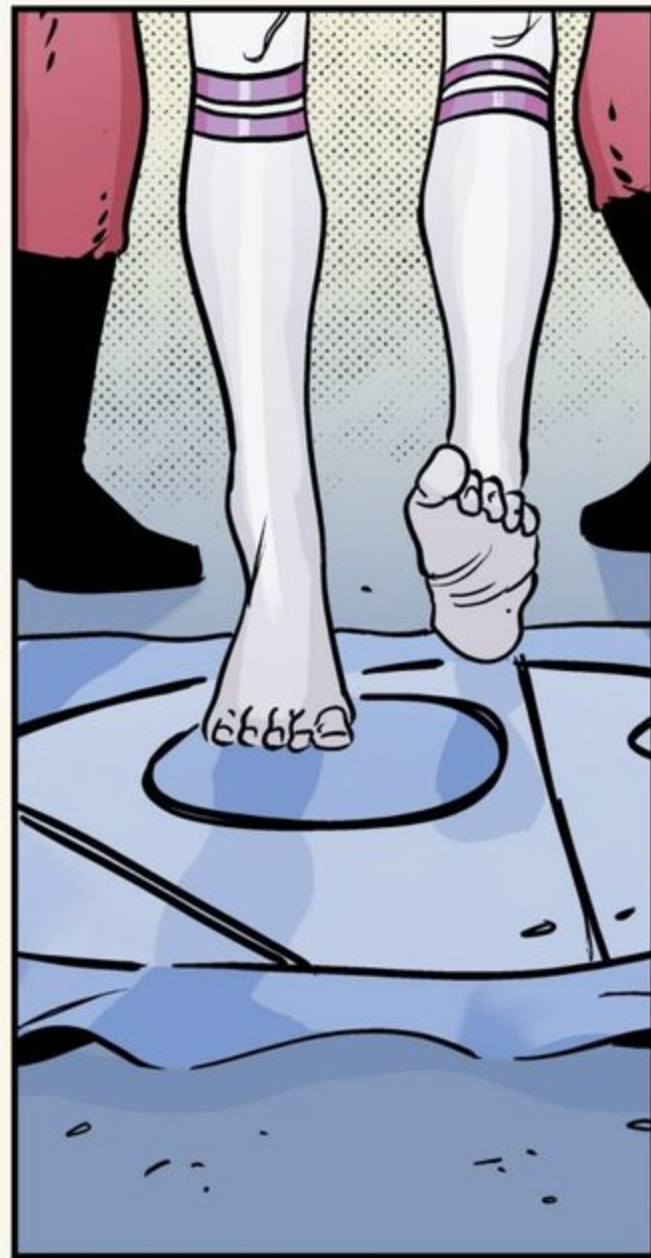






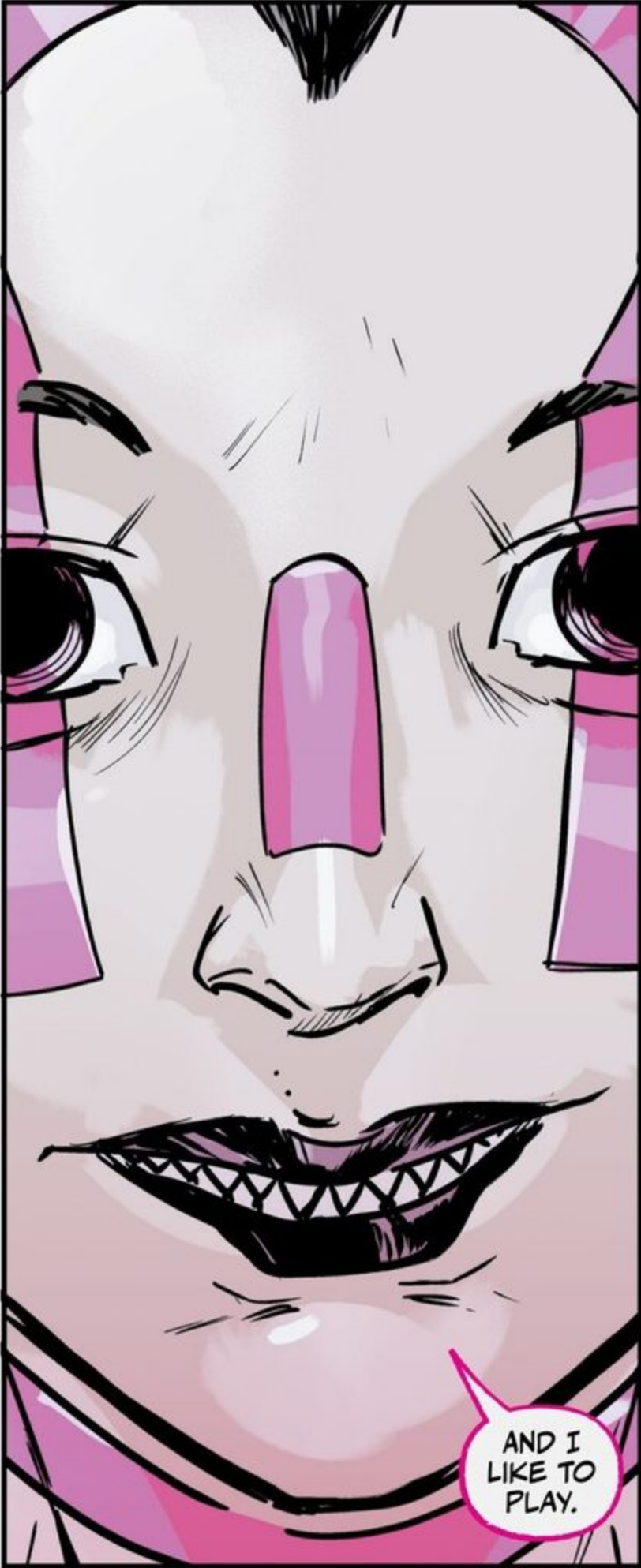
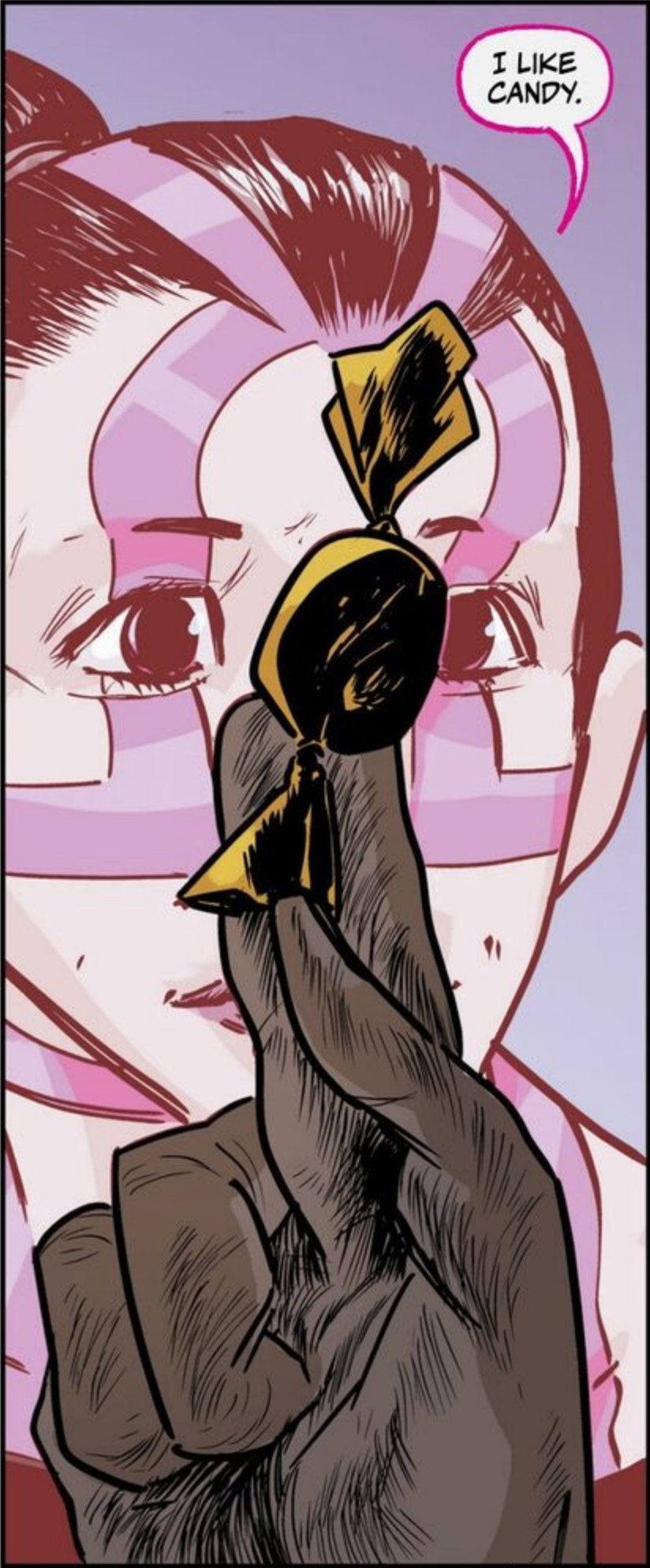






YOUR FRIEND DOESN'T LIKE ME, DOCTOR KLEIN.







THIS ISN'T
RIGHT.

NO,
IT ISN'T.
DO YOUR
FIVES.



I SEE GRAY WALLS,
WOOD FLOOR, AND
SEVEN DOORS.



I HEAR
ME TALKING, AND
JACK GRINDING
HIS TEETH.



FULLER.
STOP.

≡SNIFF≡
I SMELL DRAKKAR
NOIR AND GUN
OIL.



I FEEL
WOOD. DRY.
WARM.



WHAT DO YOU TASTE?

I TASTE...
COPPER?



NO.

THAT'S
BLOOD.



GODDAMNIT.



IT'S
FUCKING
OUR SENSES.
THAT'S AT LEAST
A LEVEL FIVE.

WE
NEED TO
PULL THE
PLUG.



WE
NEED
TO GET
OUT.

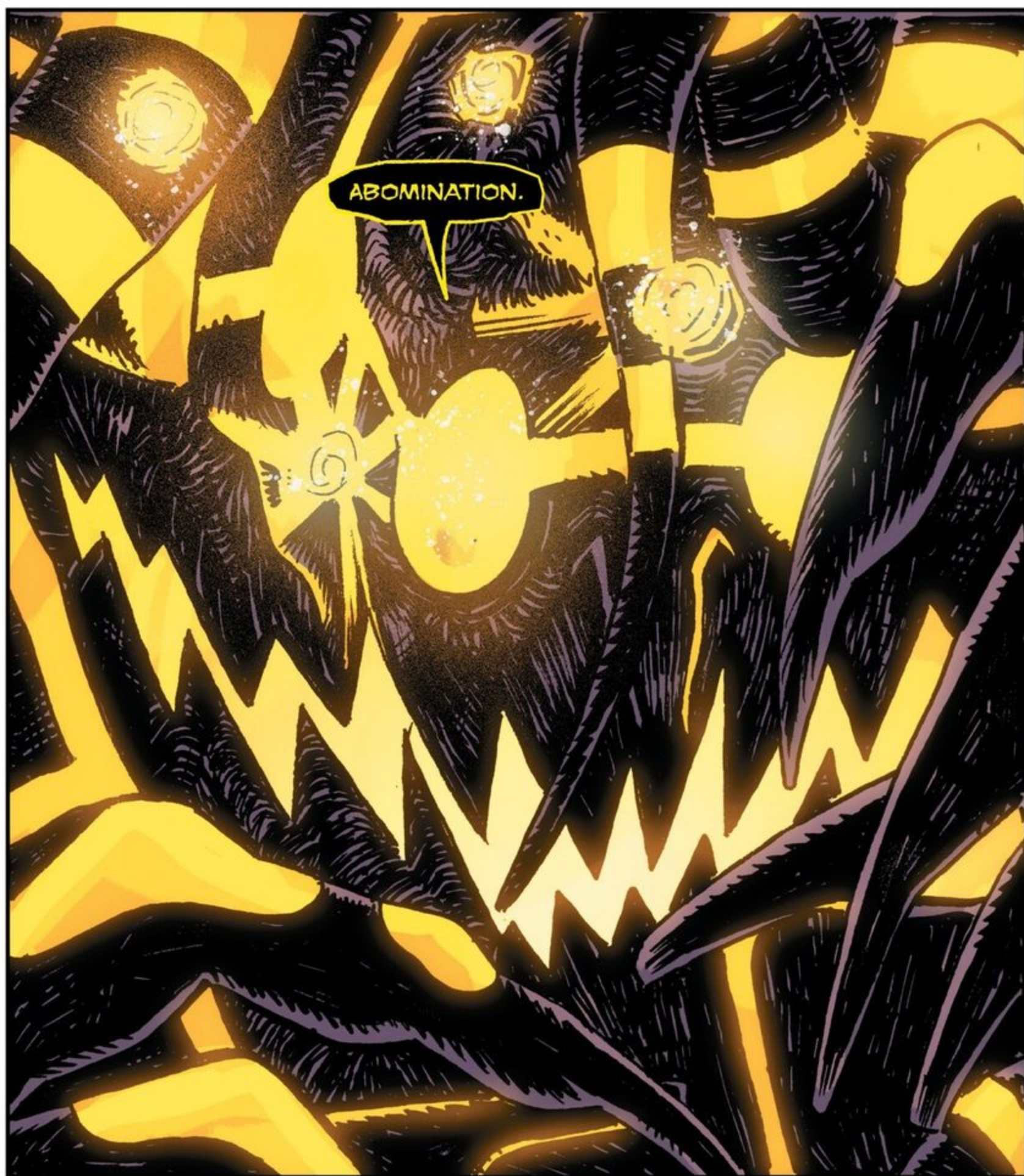


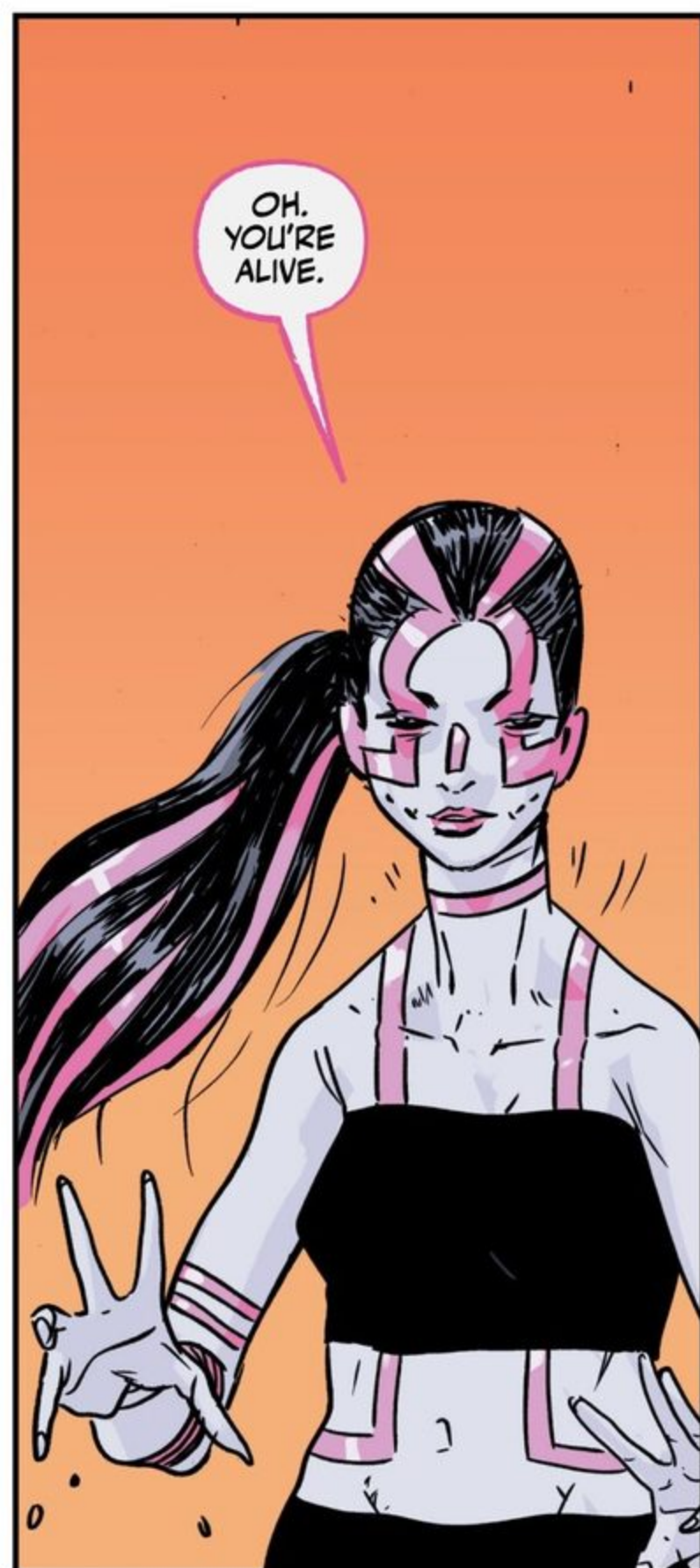
NO!



NO...

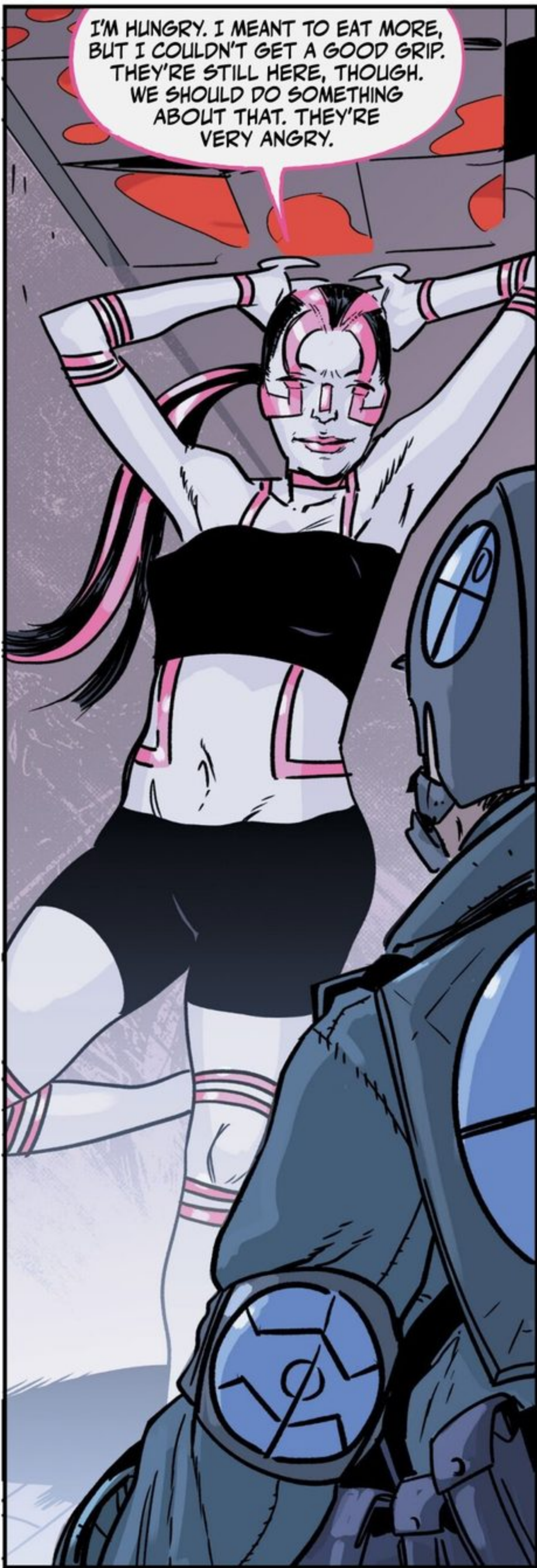


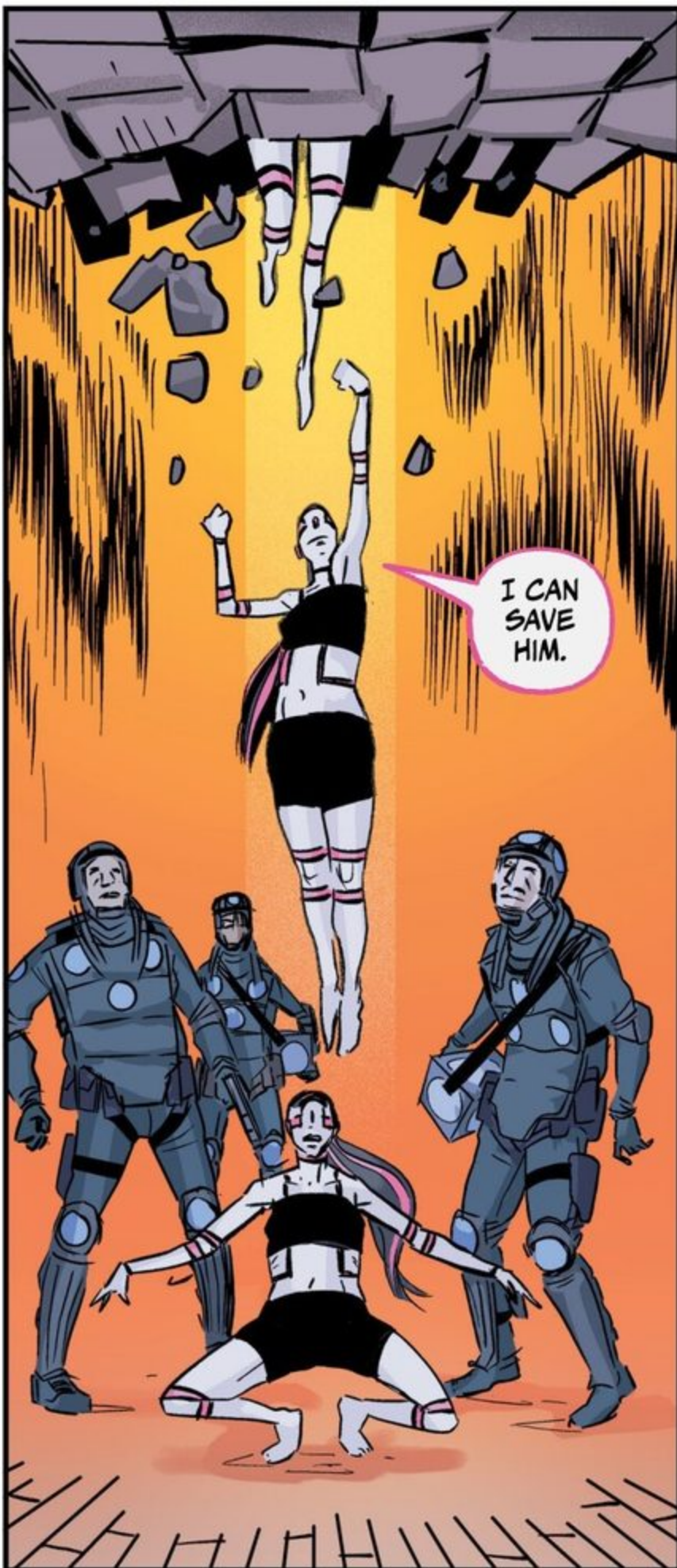










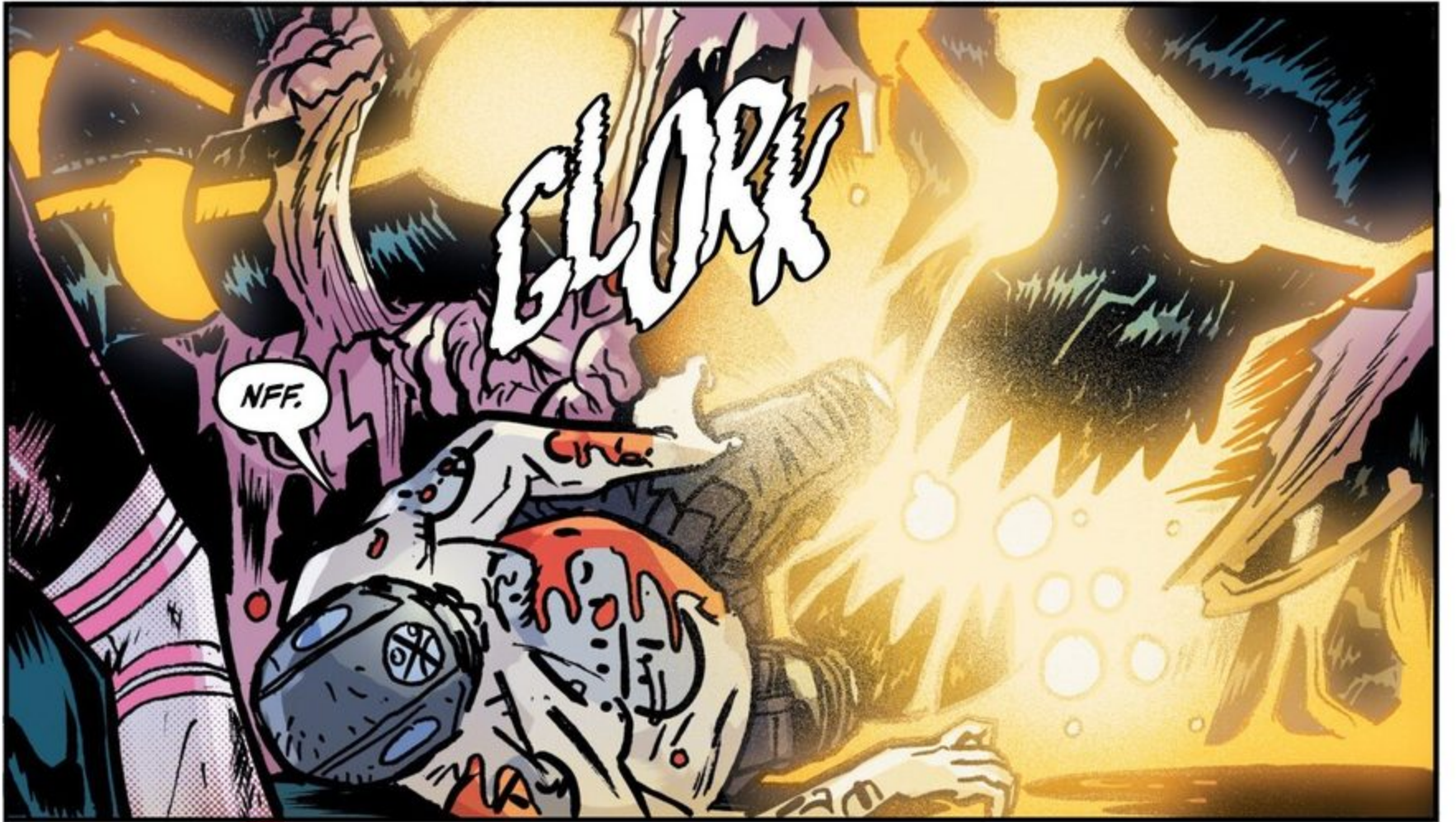




HE'S
NOT FOR
EATING.



NO, HE
IS NOT. THE
FOLDING WARDS
ARE STRONG.
SO IS HE.



NFF.



STILL, THERE
IS PLEASURE TO
BE HAD FROM
THE FLESH.



NO. NOT
FOR YOU. NO
MORE FUN
FOR YOU.



I'M STILL
HUNGRY.



YOU
HAVE CHOSEN
POORLY, LITTLE
THING.

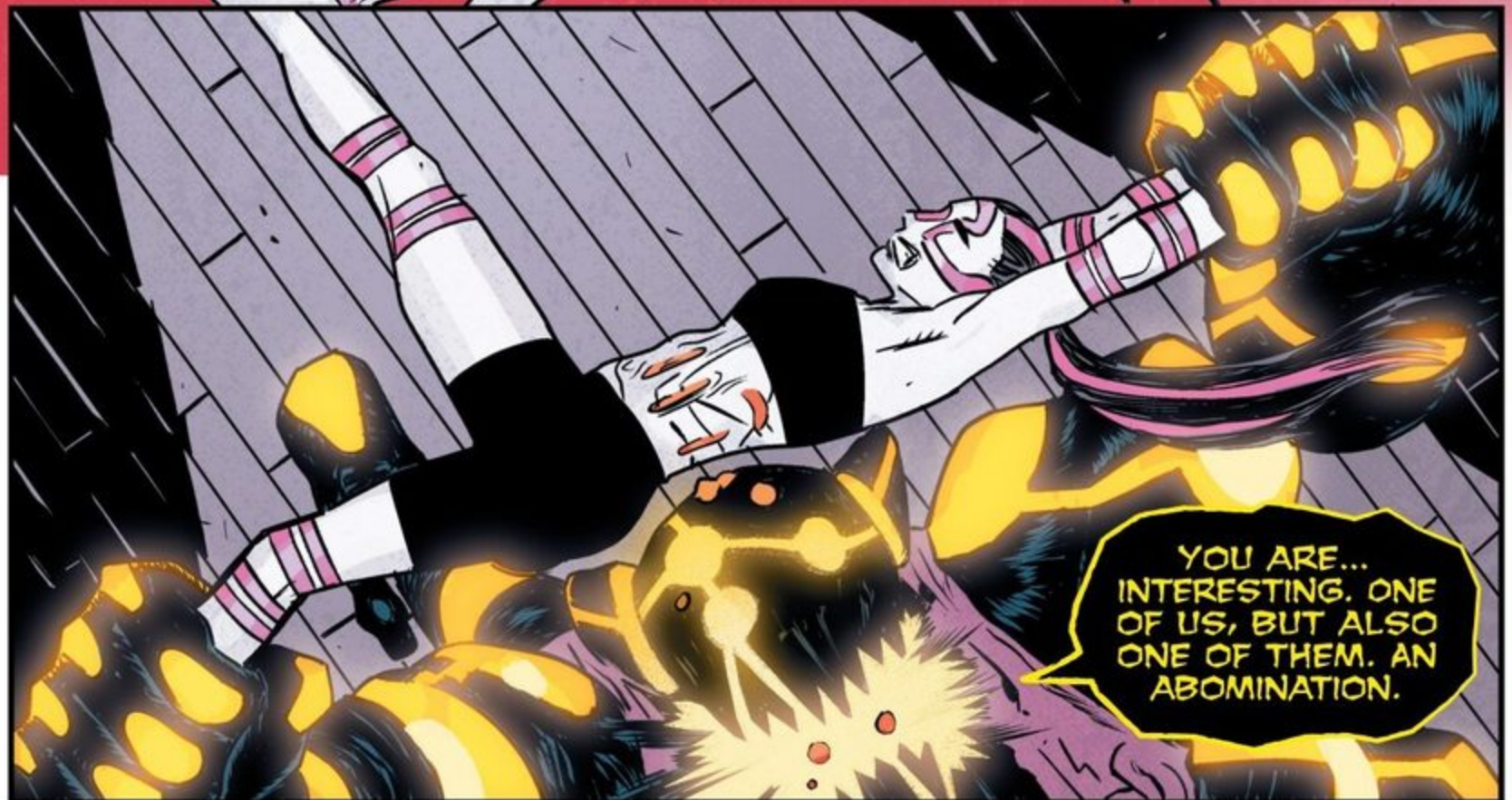
OH.
I AM
GOING TO
ENJOY THE
TASTE OF
YOU.



BOX?

NO
POINT.
IT WON'T
CONTAIN
IT.

GRAB
JACK AND GET
THE HELL
OUT.



YOU ARE...
INTERESTING. ONE
OF US, BUT ALSO
ONE OF THEM. AN
ABOMINATION.



DELIGHTFUL.

YOU
CAN'T KILL
ME.

OH I
THINK I CAN.
I VERY MUCH
THINK I CAN.



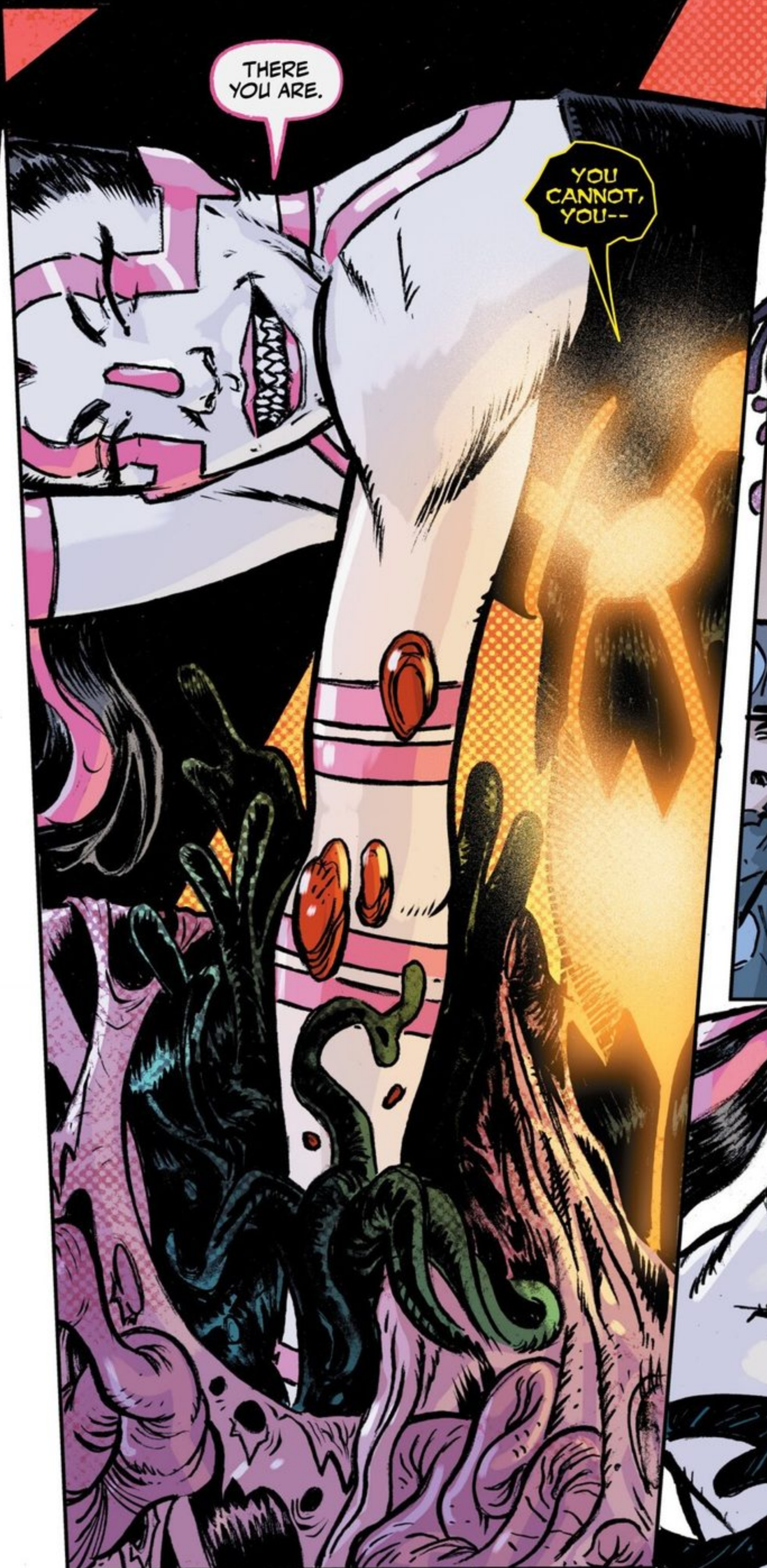
JACK, WE NEED TO GET
YOU GONE. WE NEED
TO GET ALL OF
US GONE.

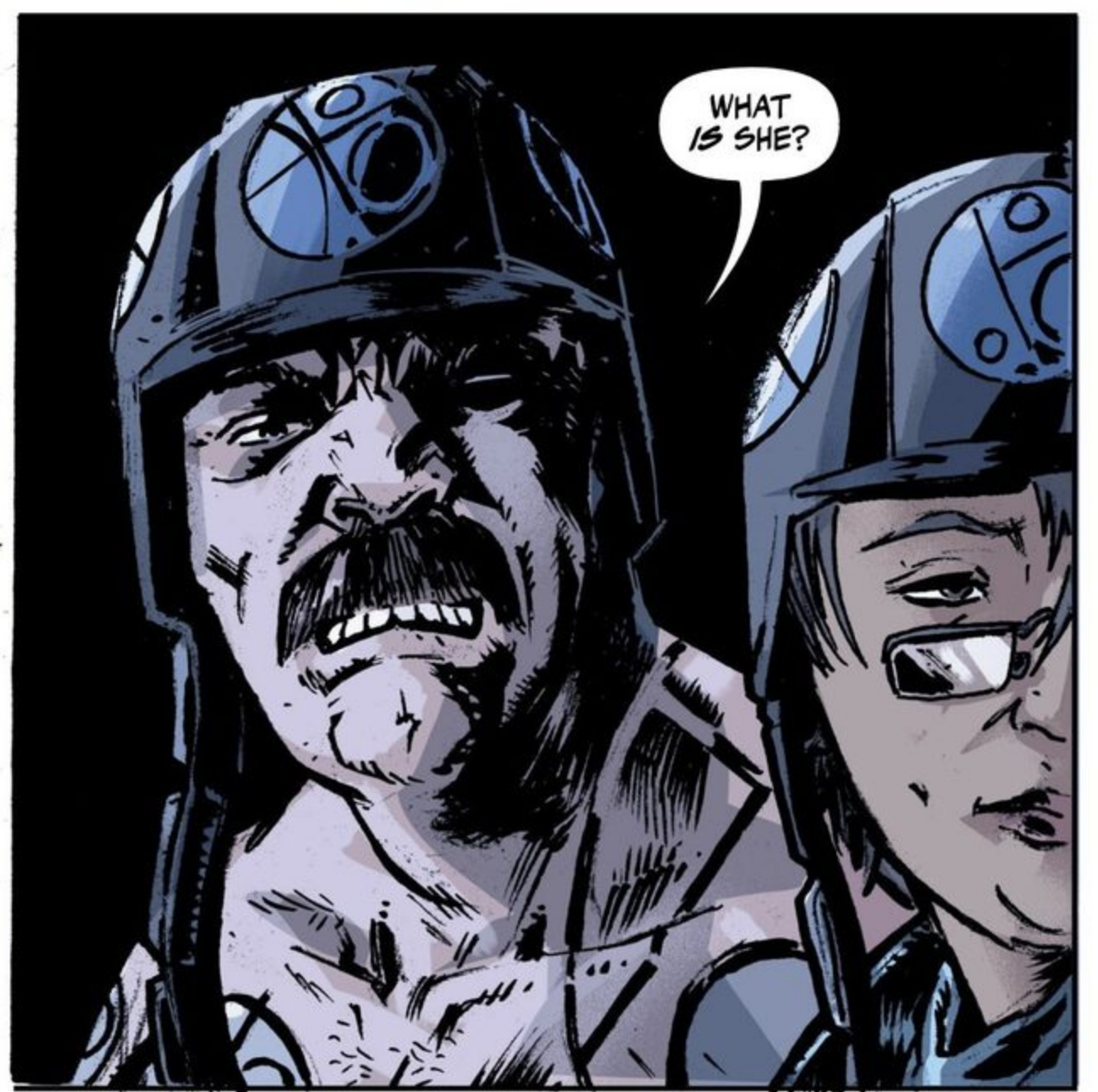
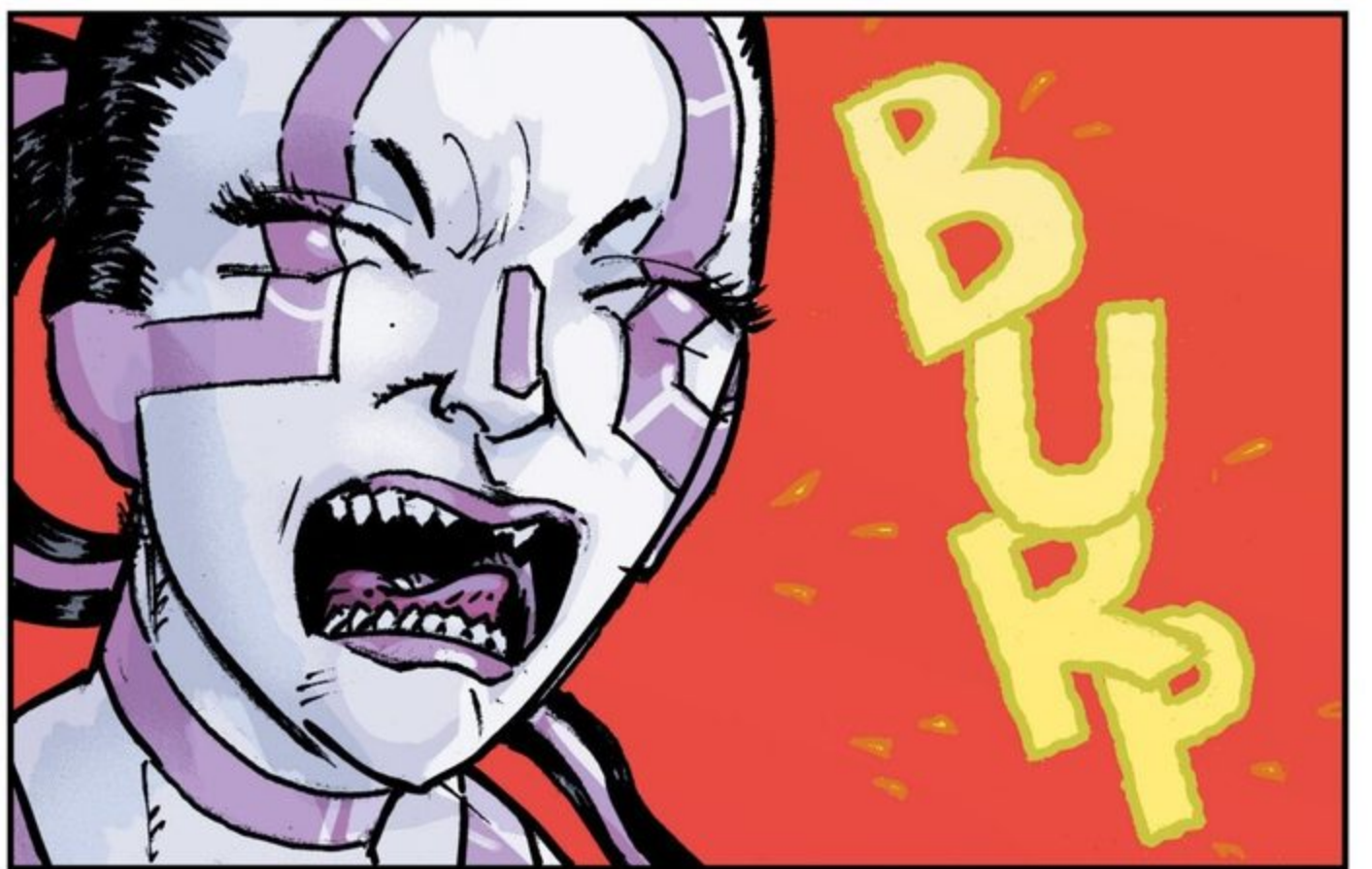
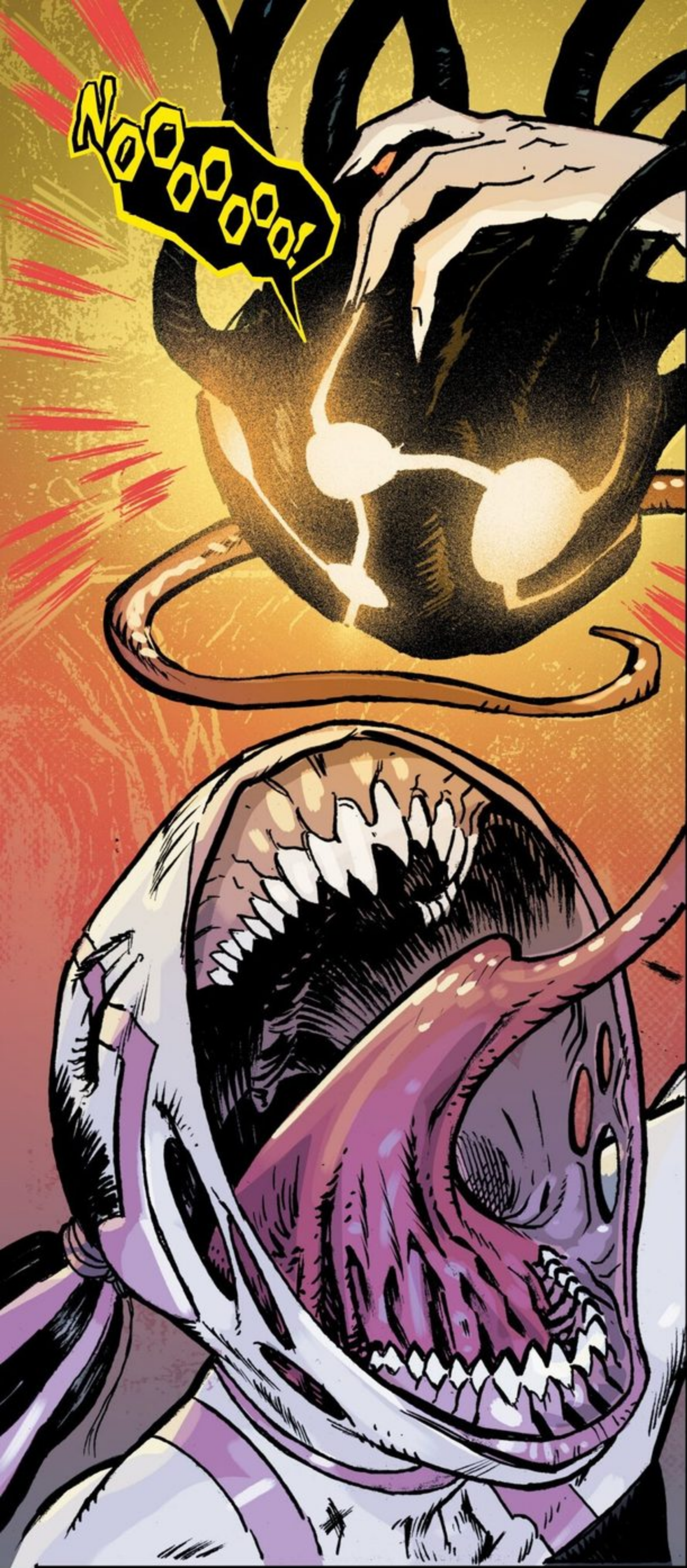
THE MAL...
IT'S TRAPPED.
THERE'S NOTHING
COMPLEX LEFT
ENOUGH FOR
IT TO--

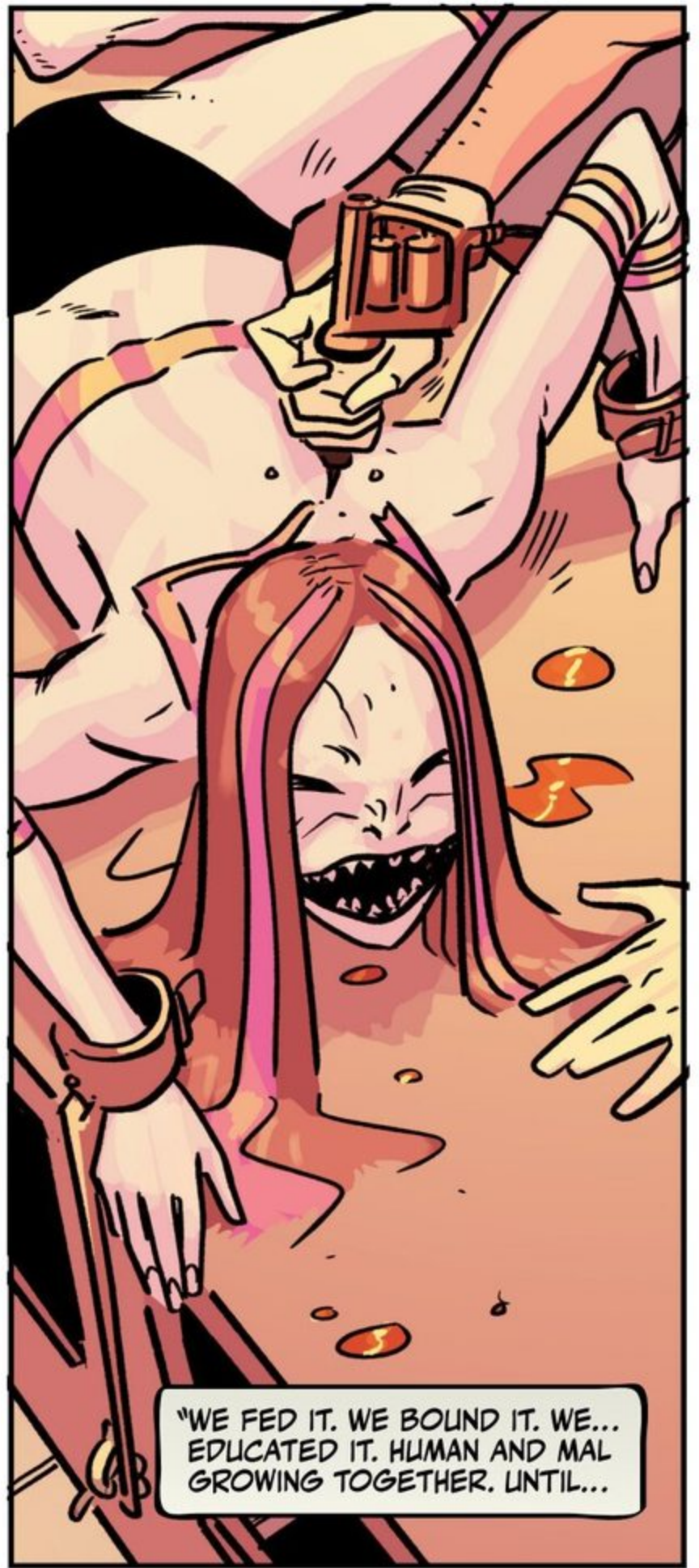
SH...
SH...

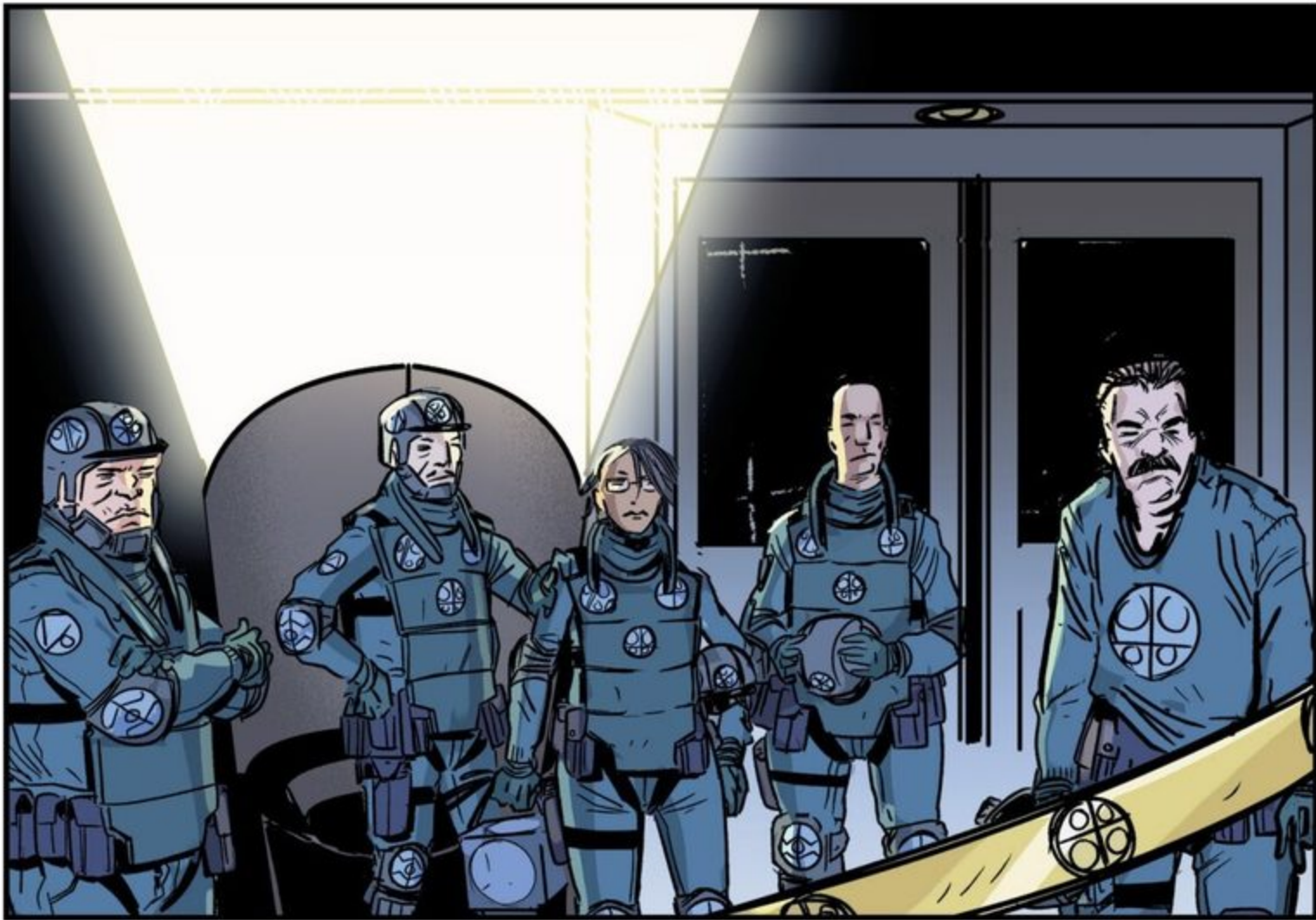












HEY KIDS FREE COMICS!

Normally, I'd just start this backmatter with my usual ramblings, which I will definitely get to shortly, but I'm switching it up here to try and give you some comics.

I'm giving away free copies of my Image books SPREAD, which John, Felipe, Crank and I worked on (and if you like MALEVOLENT, you'll like SPREAD) as well as THE STRANGE TALENT OF LUTHER STRODE. Because they're dope. I think, anyway.

All you need to do is sign up for my newsletter at justinjordancomics.com by, uh, typing it into a browser or, probably easier, scanning this QR code. Because who doesn't like free stuff? It'll also keep you up to date on my work, give you behind the scenes stuff, and also just me yabbering about life in comics. It's a fun time.



If you want to learn how to make comics, go to deathorcomics.com, or, you know, scan this other QR code, and we'll send the Quickstarts Guides to Writing Comics, Pitching Comics, and Comic Script Format. Which is literally enough to get you started writing today.



So, MALEVOLENT.

John and I go way back. Even before Spread, in fact. We're so ancient and wizened that we were in DC's Zuda competition together. What's Zuda, the youths ask? More or less an online American Idol for comics. I'm about 89% sure Felipe was involved with Zuda too.

John and I eventually did work together on the back half of SPREAD, but we've been trying to do a thing purely our own for years. And now we have, and I figured, why not get the SPREAD gang back together?

MALEVOLENT is about... well, you read it, you know it's about demons and humans and kinda-human demons, but we've got lots more up our sleeves in the coming months. We have, as the Cenobites say, such sights to show you...

- Justin
Justinjordancomics.com
IG: Justinjordancomics

Everything Justin said is true, and I have no idea how those bodies ended up in his trunk.

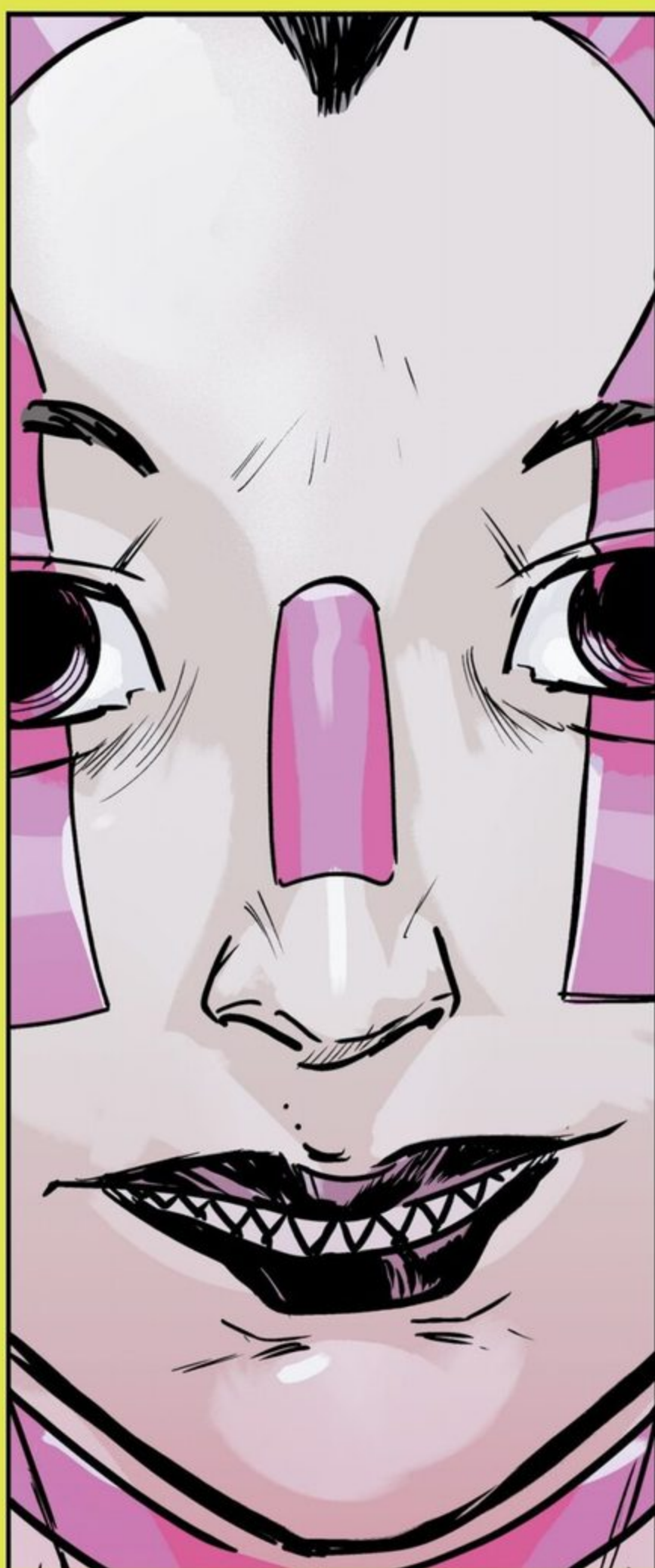
- John
jtbivens.com
IG: bivensjohn

No idea about any bodies in Justin's trunk but he's right about me being involved in Zuda, I colored a comic called Earthbuilders!

- Felipe
Sobreiro.com
IG: sobreiro

I'm just here because they promised beer and skittles.

-crank!



THIRTY YEARS AGO, THE GATES OF HELL CRACKED OPEN WHEN SCIENCE WENT TOO FAR—AND THE WORLD HAS NEVER BEEN THE SAME. HUMANITY ADAPTED, SURVIVED, EVEN THRIVED IN THE SHADOW OF DEMONS. BUT NOW, MANKIND HAS MADE SOMETHING NEW. SOMETHING DANGEROUS. A WEAPON THAT CAN KILL DEMONS... IF SHE DOESN'T KILL US FIRST.

RATED M (MATURE) COVER A

